

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) A non-naturally occurring composition of matter comprising at least one component possessing nucleic acid polymerase enhancing activity selected from the group consisting of: an isolated or purified naturally-occurring polymerase enhancing protein obtained from a bacterial, eukaryotic, or archael source; a wholly or partially synthetic protein having the same amino acid sequence as said naturally-occurring protein or an analog thereof possessing polymerase enhancing activity; polymerase-enhancing mixtures of one or more of said naturally occurring or wholly or partially synthetic proteins; a polymerase-enhancing protein complex of one or more of said naturally occurring or wholly or partially synthetic proteins; and a polymerase enhancing partially purified cell extract containing one or more of said naturally occurring proteins.

2. to 34. (cancelled)

35. (original) A kit for replicating nucleic acids comprising a polymerase-enhancing composition of claim 1 and at least one nucleic acid polymerase.

36. to 39. (cancelled)

40. (original) A method of enhancing a nucleic acid polymerase reaction comprising, in any appropriate order, combining (a) a nucleic acid sequence template for a nucleic acid polymerase, (b) at least one nucleic acid polymerase, and (c) a polymerase enhancing composition according to claim 1.

41. to 95. (cancelled)

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